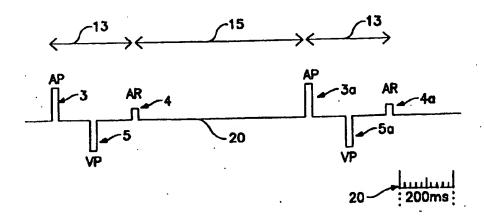


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A pacemaker control method and apparatus for determining the presence of arrial tachyarrhythmias uses a true interval value and compares it to a predetermined tachy value. The true interval value is updated based on the presence of far field R waves in PVARP that meet certain sequencing criteria. The criteria selected allows the control method and apparatus to reduce or eliminate event sequences that will generate false positive tachy detection and subsequent mode switching, while still allowing for the detection of tachy events in PVARP.